

exceed one-third the number of representatives. In apportioning the senators among the different counties, the fraction that may be lost by any county or counties, in the apportionment of members to the house of representatives, shall be made up to such county or counties in the senate as near as may be practicable. When a district is composed of two or more counties, they shall be adjoining; and no county shall be divided in forming a district.

7. The first election for senators and representatives shall be held on the first Thursday in August, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five; and for ever thereafter, elections for members of the general assembly shall be held once in two years, on the first Thursday in August; said elections shall terminate the same day.

8. The first session of the general assembly shall commence on the first Monday in October, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-five; and for ever thereafter, the general assembly shall meet on the first Monday in October next ensuing the election.

9. No person shall be a representative, unless he shall be a citizen of the United States of the age of twenty-one years, and shall have been a citizen of this state for three years, and a resident in the county he represents one year immediately preceding the election.

10. No person shall be a senator unless he shall be a citizen of the United States, of the age of thirty years, and shall have resided three years in this state, and one year in the county or district, immediately preceding the election. No senator or representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be eligible to any office or place of trust, the appointment to which is vested in the executive or the general assembly, except to the office of trustee of a literary institution.

11. The senate and house of representatives, when assembled, shall each choose a speaker and its other officers, be judges of the qualifications and election of its members, and sit upon its own adjournments from day to day. Two-thirds of each house shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized by law to compel the attendance of absent members.

12. Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behaviour, and, with the concurrence of two-thirds, expel a member, but not a second time for the same offence; and shall have all other powers necessary for a branch of the legislature of a free state.

13. Senators and representatives shall in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during the session of the general assembly, and in going to and returning from the same; and, for any speech or debate in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

14. Each house may punish by imprisonment, during its session, any person not a member, who shall be guilty of disrespect to the house, by any disorderly or contemptuous behaviour in its presence.

15. When vacancies happen in either house, the governor for the time being shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

16. Neither house shall, during its session, adjourn without consent of the other for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.